

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PEKING 00072 110845Z
ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 OMB-01 SAJ-01
/069 W

-----110848Z 001787 /21

O 110600Z JAN 77
FM USLO PEKING
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7057
INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY TOKYO IMMEDIATE RIYO
CINCPAC FOR POLAD IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L PEKING 72

NOFORN

E.O.11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PINT, CH
SUBJECT: ANNIVERSARY OF CHOU'S PASSING: TOP LEADERSHIP REMAINS OUT
OF SIGHT.

REF: PEKING 60:

1. CONTINUING FAILURE BY THE PRC'S TOP LEADERSHIP TO
ASSOCIATE ITSELF PUBLICLY WITH ACTIVITIES COMMEMORATING
FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF CHOU'S DEATH SUGGESTS SERIOUS
INDECISION AT THE CENTER. THIS IMPRESSION IS HEIGHTENED
BY CURIOUS PRESS AND RADIO HANDLING OF VISIT BY HONDURAS
COMMUNIST PARTY DELEGATION. FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE HUA
WAS NAMED PARTY CHAIRMAN, THE MEDIA DO NOT IDENTIFY TIME
OF HIS MEETING WITH VISITING DELEGATION BUT REFER INSTEAD
TO "RECENT" MEETING IN PEKING WITH DELEGATION OF THE
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CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE MARXIST-LENINIST COMMUNIST
PARTY OF HONDURAS. THE INTENT SEEMS OBVIOUS: TO
KEEP HUA'S NAME BEFORE THE PUBLIC AT A TIME WHEN
HIS ABSENCE IS DIFFICULT TO EXPLAIN.

2. A FURTHER PUZZLING ASPECT OF THE MEETING IS THE
ABSENCE OF VICE PREMIER LI HSIEN-NIEN, WHO HAD BEEN

PRESENT AT EACH POST-OCTOBER MEETING BETWEEN HUA AND VISITING LEADERS OF OUT-OF-POWER MARXIST-LENINIST PARTIES. IN THIS INSTANCE LI'S PLACE WAS TAKEN BY THE SHADOWY WANG TUNG-HSING, NOT PREVIOUSLY KNOWN TO HAVE ANY RESPONSIBILITY FOR INTERNATIONAL COMMUNIST AFFAIRS.

3. FOR WHAT IT IS WORTH--AND THE SOURCING IS VAGUE-- A FOREIGN JOURNALIST HEARD TWO DAYS AGO FROM "A FOREIGN EXPERT" LONG RESIDENT IN PEKING THAT "THE CHINESE PEOPLE ARE PARTICULARLY ANGRY WITH TWO INDIVIDUALS: WU TEH AND LI HSIEN-NIEN." THE FOREIGN EXPERT DID NOT AMPLIFY. (PLEASE PROTECT SOURCING.)

4. AND WE HAVE ALSO HEARD A THIRDHAND STORY SOURCED TO THE VIETNAMESE THAT THE CENTRAL LEADERSHIP IS EXPECTED TO ISSUE A DECISION IMMINENTLY. AGAIN, NO DETAILS WERE PROVIDED.

5. MEANWHILE, ACTIVITY AT TIENANMEN SQUARE CONTINUES AT APPROXIMATELY THE SAME LEVEL AS OF 0830 JANUARY 11 LOCAL. WREATHS AND POSTERS ARE STILL ATTRACTING LARGE CROWDS, BUT NO NOTEWORTHY NEW POSTERS HAVE YET BEEN OBSERVED.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 11-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition History: n/a
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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